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MASKED AND FATAL INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

THIS case occurred in July last, in the little daughter of Mr. H., of our city, who was about 10 or 11 years of age. I send you the account as it was recorded at the time; and if you think it will be of any interest to your readers, it is at your disposal.

I had been attending this little sufferer about three weeks, at the latter part of which period Drs. Dunbar and T. Buckler were called in. At first her symptoms were of a bilious character, with some slight gastric disturbance. This was soon corrected with a few powders of calomel and rhubarb, when the brain was attacked, of which there was more or less complaint till death. Leeches were applied to the temples, a blister to the back of the neck, and ice to the head. The circulation seemed remarkably tranquil throughout, as the pulse, till within a day or two of death, was always regular and soft—the respiration free and easy—the digestion good, and rather ravenous than otherwise. The bowels were pretty regular, and the skin not unnaturally dry and hot, but sometimes having the sensation of chilliness. Yet, notwithstanding all this, there was marked *irritability* of the brain, as seen in the tossing of the head from side to side, the moaning, occasional screaming, and frequent saying “Oh, my head,” and wishing she “was dead,” &c. Still there was no development of fever, or general disturbance of the system, and the case was therefore regarded as one of great nervous irritability, rather than of acute or violent inflammation of the brain. And this view appeared to be confirmed by the treatment, as repeated doses of hydrocyanic acid invariably acted almost like a charm, in quelling all this cerebral excitement, and causing the most gentle and natural sleep. A Dover’s powder with calomel, occasionally given, had the same effect, but not in so happy a manner, so that the acid was mostly relied on.

There was almost constant picking of the nose, which, with the ravenous appetite just noticed, led to the suspicion that *worms* might be the cause of all the cerebral disturbance. Hence anthelmintics were given, without, however, discharging any. She also made occasional complaint of her side, to which a blister was applied, though there was no cough. After the blister had healed on the back of the neck, an ointment of croton oil, sp., &c., at Dr. Dunbar’s suggestion, was rubbed on; the

same was also rubbed behind the ears, and nitre was given when there appeared to be much thirst. When Dr. Buckler saw the case, he recommended spts. of turpentine in small doses; after which, powders of lupul., valer. and camph. But these had to be discontinued, as fever seemed to be produced, and the eyes to redden. About a week before death, the pupils were much dilated, and we were fearful of effusion upon the brain. Within a day or two of death, the pupils continued dilated and insensible to light, with but slight intervals of apparent contraction, while the balls of the eye, on the day of death, were quite red and head hot. During all this time the sense of hearing was good, as she would put out her tongue when required, and either nod or shake her head to questions asked. The head, it should be remarked, kept generally tolerably pleasant to the touch, so that she would frequently refuse the ice to it.

*Post-mortem, nine hours after death—Brain.*—The veins upon its surface, and sinuses, were loaded with blood. A small patch or two of yellow, hardened lymph, was seen on the superior surface of the hemisphere. The lateral and third ventricles contained at least five or six ounces. The optic nerves at their origin, the tubercula quadrigemina, and lower surface of pons-varolii, were all covered with a remarkably thick and expanded layer of yellow coagulable lymph. The pituitary gland was also covered with this same kind of lymph, which extended to the optic nerves at this point; and this lymph was noticed to be very firm, requiring some force to separate it, and in fact seeming somewhat organized. A row of little pearly bodies, not so large as a pin's head, were seen along the side of the pons, and were regarded as miliary tubercles. The medullary portion of the brain presented its usual natural whiteness, but was much firmer than in health. The interior of the pons especially, on cutting, offered considerable resistance, and felt remarkably firm on pressure.

*Chest.*—The lungs were sound, and nothing noticed as morbid, except an old chronic adhesion of pleurisy, of some firmness, between the lung and ribs on one side.

*Abdomen.*—Large intestine inflated with air. The spleen much more dense than usual, though of natural size and color. The appendix vermisformis had strong adhesions. The glands of Peyer, as well as the rest of the abdominal organs, generally seemed in a natural state.

*Remarks.*—On reviewing the symptoms of this case, and comparing them with the appearances after death, a *fact* of the greatest moment presents itself for consideration—a fact, which, to our mind, seems of the greatest magnitude, both in practice and theory—a fact, which, we must confess, not a little staggers our confidence in the certainty of *diagnosis*—and a fact which would seem strongly calculated to humble our self-esteem, not only for unerring or superior pathological skill, but also for that of every other species of medical dogmatism. We allude to the strange harmony of healthy and morbid symptoms at the same time—or rather, that the circulation, respiration, digestion, and secretions generally, should seem in a healthy condition, while at the same time the most active and fatal inflammation of the brain was going on—while this same

brain also presented symptoms rather of irritation than acute inflammation—in other words, the strange incompatibilities of apparently healthy functions, being united with the most destructive inflammation. It is true that the physicians in attendance do not regard all this mischief as the result of this attack, as the mother states that her daughter, long before, used to show symptoms of head disease, and being of an exceedingly nervous temperament, the structural changes noticed in the brain were believed to be the insidious, though fatal work of time. The case, nevertheless, strongly presents the caution, which we may here be justified in using—that probably it is better, in such cases, to be a little too hasty than otherwise, in suspecting *serious inflammation*, and then acting decidedly on such suspicion; for should it prove wrong, the error can be much more readily repaired, than on the other plan of treating as if little or no inflammation was present.

W. R. HANDY.

Baltimore, Sept. 10th, 1850.

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"POPULAR PHYSIOLOGY."

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

An article, under the above caption, appeared in the Journal of Aug. 21st, which, although it contains many truths, contains, also, much that had better be left unsaid than said in the manner it is in the article alluded to. It is incumbent on philanthropic individuals, who seek to correct existing evils, to use such terms in exposing error as shall least offend those they wish to serve, as the human mind is so constituted that it *will not* be convinced by ridicule, much less by vituperation.

It is not, in my opinion, the best way to convince mankind they are in the wrong, to call them "shallow brains," or to compare them to unclean animals—neither does it bespeak a very refined taste in the author of such a tirade. Most men, undoubtedly, are very ignorant of physiology; but, so far from thinking their ignorance a fit subject for ridicule, I cannot but regard it as one of a class of evils, which, if we would perform our duty, we should do all in our power to remedy. It is not their fault that they are so ignorant of "physiology," and consequently so easily deceived by the artful and designing; it is in part owing to the mystery in which (until comparatively of late) everything relating to medicine has been wrapt up; but chiefly to the truth of our friend's "counter proverb," "we cannot know everything." We cannot, indeed, know everything; but should that fact prevent men from learning, or seeking to learn, as much as they can? The facility with which the public fall a prey to every quack that perambulates the country, affirms the truth of the contrary.

Now, shall we say to those less favored than ourselves in this particular department of knowledge, you cannot know everything connected with the study of physiology, and therefore you should know *nothing*? Because, forsooth, you cannot spare the time, or have not the inclination, to wade through the intricacies of a "regular education," you must not venture on the (to you) forbidden ground, but leave it to

those who have a "diploma" and by virtue of *that* possess the exclusive privilege of investigating such matters. As well may the astronomer say that none but astronomers have a right to look through the telescope into the mysterious depths of space; or, because we have not the time, and it may be the inclination, to learn the names given to the different planets, their relative positions, and the distances of the various systems of worlds, that we should not know there are other worlds, except the one we inhabit. If only to physicians belongs the privilege of studying physiology and its kindred sciences, then to divines, alone, belongs the right of opinion in matters of religion; and to statesmen, the domain of politics; and no one has the right to intrude on the particular province of the other. Does not this appear absurd? and yet this, I believe, is the idea sought to be conveyed by our friend.

It is very true that not every man "can be the maker of his own watch, his own newspaper, his own almanac." Yet I think that fact, important as it is, should not prevent his learning as much as is possible of each and all of these various trades or professions, nor even prevent his knowing a *little* of "physiology." I confess I am not of that class who fear the world will know too much of the mysteries of our profession; for, though a "little knowledge is a dangerous thing," I have ever found that ignorance is a great deal more dangerous. It is possible to convince even a "shallow-brains," if he has an idea of what we wish him to understand; but it is almost impossible to remove the prejudices of a strong-minded man if he is ignorant, and much more so the prejudices of a "shallow-brains" in the same predicament.

I do not wish to be understood as an advocate of "popular physiology," as taught by ignorant, unqualified itinerants—men who care only for the "twelve-and-a-half cents" of which our friend speaks; but I do protest against the wholesale denunciation in which he indulges of any mode of teaching children and others. If a correct system of physiology were taught in our public schools, by competent persons, it would do more to check the floods of quackery that are pouring over the land, than all the penal enactments that have ever passed our legislative halls. To be a competent teacher of elementary physiology, it is not necessary for the person to be a physician. Let the teachers in our public schools understand what is expected of them in this particular branch of study, and that they must be properly qualified for their task, and I think it will be found that the dangers which our friend dreads, are merely chimerical. I do not think we need to dread the raising the veil of our Isis. The only effect that a knowledge of elementary physiology will have on the public mind, will be, that possessing more information than heretofore on this subject, they will be better enabled to distinguish between the well-informed physician and the ignorant pretender—whether he have a "diploma" or not. For my part, I have no fear of our profession losing an iota of the respect or veneration due it, by the dissemination of knowledge among the multitude. It is only ignorance and superstition that dreads the prying eye: true knowledge courts inquiry.

Before closing, I would respectfully suggest to the "doctor" that in

future he employ more refined comparisons, and not deal so liberally in the use of expletives—for the bitterer the pill, the more need is there of the saccharine coating, if we would induce those, for whose benefit it is intended, to swallow it.

MEDICUS.

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#### CASE OF FRACTURED CRANIUM.

[Read at a Quarterly Meeting of the Rhode Island Medical Society, and communicated for this Journal by order of the Committee on Publications.]

ON the 13th of April last, my father and myself were called to see my brother Richard, thrown from a horse four miles from home. On our arrival, we found him very much collapsed, and having a wound on the right side of the head of great extent and frightful appearance. The scalp was lacerated just posteriorly to the temporal fossa, to about the extent of a half dollar; and about two inches posterior to this, a smaller laceration existed. In the anterior of the two wounds the skull was fractured and driven in upon the substance of the brain, so that three fingers might be passed directly down into the brain, an inch or more, without resistance. There was a fissure extending posteriorly from the principal wound, in a line with the smaller one, with very considerable depression on the inferior side, which I immediately replaced with my forceps without any resistance; showing, as I think, that the inferior margin of the parietal bones, between the line of fissure and the squamous suture, was detached and depressed. There was a considerable quantity of brain about the wound, as well as upon the stones where he fell; in fact, the quantity of cerebral matter lost could not (in the whole progress of the case) have been less than an ounce.

Upon inquiry, we gathered the following history. At near 8 o'clock in the morning he separated from his brother to go north by a rather secluded road, and within fifteen or twenty minutes of that time his horse was seen returning, but his brother having been seen in his company, it was supposed he had taken him into the carriage, and the people in the neighborhood gave themselves no uneasiness about it; so that he was not found until the expiration of three or four hours. The wind was northeast; and although, fortunately, it did not rain, the weather was of the peculiarly penetrating and unpleasant description which characterizes our spring. It is not to be wondered at, therefore (when considered in connection with the extensive loss of blood which must have occurred), that the system was in the lowest state of depression. There was considerable paralysis of the left side, which was very evident upon his attempting to answer questions, which he could do quite pertinently when aroused, although there was considerable stupor, and he was aroused with great effort.

Upon examining him, our prognosis was, of course, a fatal one; but, not to neglect any proper measures, we immediately sent for our friend, Dr. T. C. Dunn, to whose skill and kindness in the future conduct of the case we wish to express our deep obligations.

Upon his arrival, he proceeded to operate in the following manner:—

Introducing a director into the anterior wound, it was passed back under the integuments and superior attachment of the temporal muscle to the posterior wound ; then passing a bistoury along the groove of the director, the two wounds were converted into one. The pieces of bone were then (five in number, and about the size of a dollar when placed in co-apportion) taken out with forceps, and the wound covered with a piece of lint wet with cold water, which, with a compress, also wet with cold water and changed once in ten or fifteen minutes, was the dressing used from that time.

In the course of the afternoon of the second day, the re-action became quite violent, and there were some convulsive movements, particularly of the face, so that it was considered necessary to abstract some blood, and he was accordingly bled pretty freely from the arm, notwithstanding the large amount already lost, and notwithstanding, also, that considerable quantities continued to exude from the wound. His diet was the most rigid possible ; and although he soon became ravenously hungry, he was not allowed to take anything but bread-water for about three weeks. In fact, the first relaxation occurred when the granulations assumed the flaccid and pallid appearance which indicates superabundant serosity of the blood, and then he was allowed one molasses cookie per day.

On the second morning after the accident, the symptoms became very unfavorable, the convulsive movements set in with renewed force, and the stupor increased ; but upon removing the dressings, a quantity of bloody serum and disorganized cerebral matter was removed, and instantaneous relief was manifested ; and from that time there was a gradual though very slow improvement in the constitutional symptoms, the most serious feature being the remarkable diminution in the rapidity of the pulse, which is almost pathognomonic of serious injuries of the brain, and the removal of which was as gradual as the other evidences of restoration.

After the first few days, a hernia cerebralis occurred, which was treated by pressure made by strips of adhesive plaster drawn over little plates of sheet lead, and which finally disappeared after about four weeks. At the end of the fifth week, he was removed home, without difficulty, and no unfavorable symptom afterwards occurred to interrupt the cure, which, at the end of the twelfth week, was in all respects perfect, neither his physical nor mental condition being at all impaired.

I should have mentioned, in passing, that the use of the catheter was necessary for about three weeks, as also a little encouragement to the action of the bowels. I should also express our sense of the attention and kindness of our professional brethren, more particularly of Dr. O. C. Turner.

HENRY E. TURNER.

September, 1850.

## INHALATION.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

THE inhalation of the powder of *nitras argenti* and lycopodium forms almost a new era in the treatment of diseases of the larynx, bronchial tubes and lungs. The subject of inhaling various substances, as the vapor of different medicines, for these diseases, is not new. It has been tried in a variety of forms, and with numerous substances, by many eminent physicians, in various ages; but the use of the *nitrate*, as applied to the mucous membrane of the air passages, is very recent. For some three or four years it has been used by the probang, or a piece of bent whalebone with a sponge securely fastened to the bent end of it. This has been superseded by the *syringe*, and, more recently, by *inhaling*, from a properly-constructed instrument, the powder here named. This powder, when prepared according to the formula which I gave in the number of this Journal published March 6th, is impalpable, or exceedingly fine, and one half its weight is the *nitras argenti*. I have found it very beneficial in ulcerated sore throat, in laryngitis, bronchitis and incipient phthisis. The report, from several physicians in the country who have used it, has been favorable. Several of them state that they have raised cases in these diseases by its use, which they think would not have been raised by former modes of treatment.

The object of this note is to invite the attention of the profession to the subject, and induce them to make trial of it. The expense is comparatively trifling, and the inhalation is easily performed, and, if once adopted, I believe will not soon be abandoned.

As the ingredients, with the manner of compounding the powder, have been fully stated, any one can manufacture it himself, and easily construct an instrument by which it can be inhaled.

W. M. CORNELL.

Boston, September, 1850.

## LETTERS FROM SWITZERLAND.

FROM THE EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THIS JOURNAL.

**BASLE**—On leaving Baden-Baden—designated, in some of the hand-books, the *hell of hells*, in reference to its gambling operations—a letter was mailed for Boston, the postage of which to Liverpool, in advance, was not far from fifty-five cents. This is mentioned merely that some idea may be formed of the tax upon letter-writing in this land of contraries, where a few are learned, rich and powerful, while the million are destined to labor, pay taxes, and train their children to believe in the divine right of kings. Basle is a quaint, rusty, antique looking place, containing perhaps 26,000 inhabitants—occupying both sides of the river, and united by a rickety, dilapidated bridge, which is laden with heavy stones to keep it from being swept away. Of the University, the library of Erasmus, Greek manuscripts that no one ever reads, and therefore estimated to be of rare value; the correspondence of the reformers; a collection of medals, Roman fragments of water-jugs, margins of milkpans,

and numerous bits of things supposed to be very curious indeed, because no one can determine what they are—of these, and divers other objects, letter-writers have kept the new world well informed. Architecture was not studied as a science, when the towers, the walls and the spires of the churches were reared. Uglier conceptions were never mustered in the head of an intelligent being, since the dawn of civilization, than stand forth in these monuments of former generations. Sculpture appears to have been, at the same epoch, of a corresponding type. Even the pumps, at the corners of the streets, are dignified with stone saints, warriors and guardian angels, that excite a burst of laughter, instead of calling forth pious ejaculations as intended. This is entering Switzerland. In agriculture, they are here greatly in advance of us. Had the late lamented Mr. Colman lived to have written his views upon the modern cultivation of the soil in central Europe, it would have been a book of books. No where is the art of making the ground productive, so well understood as in Belgium, Prussia, and some parts of Germany, bordering upon the mountains of Switzerland. If the Agricultural Society of Massachusetts would send a committee to inspect and report upon the system, the expenditure would be money profitably laid out, provided the report were drawn up in a plain manner, so that our people could clearly understand the pith of the matter. Immense crops are raised here, of articles wholly unknown to American farmers, and perhaps the kinds best fitted to particular localities, where grains and potatoes yield poorly under the best efforts. One of these is *poppies!* Thousands of acres are at this moment nearly ready for harvest—which the traveller takes for granted, as he hurries by, are to be manufactured into opium. They are not, however, intended for medicinal use at all, but for a widely different purpose. From the poppy seed, a beautiful transparent oil is made, which is extensively employed in house painting. It is almost as colorless as water, and possesses so many advantages over flaxseed oil, that it may ultimately supersede that article. Where flax cannot be grown, poppies often can be—even in sandy, poor soil. Linseed is annually becoming dearer, and the demand for paint oil is increasing. With white lead, poppy oil leaves a beautiful surface, which does not afterwards change, by the action of light, into a dirty yellow. In short, this oil is destined to bring about a revolution in domestic economy. Another season, some one should make a beginning at home, in this important branch of industry. The oil may be used for various other purposes, and even put in the cruet for salads. More of this, however, on a fitting occasion.

**Zurich.**—The reader is not to be inflicted with comments upon every little hamlet in the course of a route through Switzerland. Prominent points only, in some of the principal towns, can be introduced—leaving all minor sights for future rumination. This town has claims to more than an ordinary passing notice, on several accounts. And first, its venerable age—for no body pretends to know how old it is. In a niche of the cathedral, facing the lake, is a hard, massive statue of Charlemagne. Lavater, universally known by his treatise on physiognomy, was pastor of a church in Zurich, and resided in a house adjoining St. Peters, in

the yard of which he was killed. In the public library, occupying three stories of an out-of-shape, out-of-plumb, stone edifice, partly in the water, is an elaborately constructed model of Switzerland, which gives a very accurate idea of the mountain peaks and the lakes, and explains at a glance the drainage of the whole country. This is very convenient, for the hydraulic apparatus, which is in operation for supplying vegetation and animals with water, and then conveying the superfluous quantity to the ocean from whence it was derived, is on the grandest scale imaginable. The librarian shows the Greek bible of Zwingler, one of the reformers—bearing marginal notes in his own hand-writing, as far back as 1528. Then comes the original correspondence of Henry IV. of France, and Joan and Catherine of Navarre, in 1507—only curious on account of their being historical personages. Next, the Codex Alexandrinus—and Quintilian, a splendid copy, written in the eleventh century. Each letter is full, plump, and so perfectly defined, that no writing master of this age could match it. Several ancient pictures, and a representation of three martyrs, marching with their own heads in their hands, together with the portraits of all the city chief magistrates, from 1338 to 1798, make up the inside of the Stadtbibliothek. In the arsenal, is William Tell's cross-bow, pronounced genuine by those who take a franc for showing it. Crosses, crucifixions, little boxes with paintings of the Virgin, dressed up figures, &c., abound by the road sides; and the churches and chapels being also numerous, naturally enough leads to the inference that the inhabitants have religion always at heart. On crossing the lake of Zurich, to Horgan, where weaving figured silk, in rude, shaggy hand-looms, is the principal industry, and examining the large sheets of lignite-fossil charcoal, a charming fuel, abounding in the mountains, the next stopping-place was Zug—pronounced *Zöög*—the capital of the smallest of the confederated Cantons. How strange it is that immense beds of fossil coal, or rather sheets of wood coal, should have been stored away in these alpine summits, to meet the wants of those who are now digging it! The vein, near Horgan, is represented to be thirty feet below the surface, ( ) feet in thickness, and extending no one knows how far.

From the little town of Art, on the northwest, it is customary to ascend the imposing mountain of Righi; and from a village a few miles from Lucerne, the ascent is made on the other side. A description of the scenery is beyond the ability of the writer. The expressions—"grandeur," "sublimity," "glorious exhibition of Almighty power," &c., are on every person's lips when at the summit—which is 5536 feet above the sea, and consequently not equal in altitude to Mount Washington. Hundreds assemble here daily, from every quarter of the continent, with a tolerable representation from America, to remain over night and see the sun rise the following morning. A bugle announces the hour for rising—which brings forth a motley group, in bed-blankets, night-caps, hunting-coats, and other odd appearing garments. Huddled together on a small plateau, they wait impatiently for Sol's appearance above the horizon. Many who never saw him rise before, feel the spirit of poetry urging them onward, perhaps thousands of miles, through dan-

ger and fatigue, to witness the inspiring spectacle on the lofty Righi. Exquisite young gentlemen, all moustache and imperial, in white kid gloves, look at him through opera glasses; sentimental misses, of whom there is invariably a predominance in numbers, squint, first with one eye and then the other, through an eye-glass at the end of a golden chain. Sharp-pointed mountains, piled one above another, as far as the range of vision extends, tipped with snow, and glittering in the first rays of morning light—while in the valleys below, the softness of summer reigned triumphantly, were calculated to impress us all with the feebleness of man, contrasted with the majesty and power of God, who made, and who holds, in obedience to determinate laws, the material universe.

All over Germany and these parts of Switzerland, at this particular season, viz., school and college vacations, it is perfectly delightful to meet, as we do constantly, lots of boys, with little calfskin packs on their backs, an umbrella and perhaps a spy-glass, reconnoitring the country in search of the picturesque. It generates a taste for the contemplation of nature, invigorates their bodies, and gives them elastic minds. They run, halloo, whistle, sing, take notes, make sketches, or whatever else may add to the charm of ranging over the hills and through the dales during the period of emancipation. Why do not our public instructors of youth encourage these excursions over our own unsurpassed country, where nature has been profuse of blessings, and not a whit behind in the displays of the grand and sublime? We are all determined to preach up a crusade for the boys of New England, in all coming years, and if possible aid and assist in overturning the stiff, unphilosophical course of boy-training, now predominant among us. Put money in their pockets to meet exigencies, enabling them to ride when lame, send a dozen of them off together to the White Mountains one vacation, to Niagara another, the Green Mountains a third, and so on, requiring them always to be gentlemanly in their intercourse with strangers, neat in their persons, conscientious in their duties, observers of the Sabbath, but to *have a good time*—all the while keeping a journal, and to write home once a week. What an influence this course of training would exert over the public health, were it general.

This is beginning to be a long dissertation upon all sorts of subjects but medicine—respecting which, not an item can be gathered worth remembering in this ragged, up and down, and physically upturned country. It may not be amiss to state that all these everlasting mountains are made up of small pebbles, to their extreme points, imbedded in a primitive mixture that holds them, like the Roxbury conglomerate, or, as it is commonly called, pudding stone. These pebbles were originally derived from the breaking up of rocks, which were rolled among themselves by the action of moving water, till they were rounded. They were afterwards the barrier perhaps of a great sea basin, till volcanic agency mixed them up in the mud, and then raised them, in these terrific forms.

*Lucerne*—(on the margin of the placid lake, one of the glories of Switzerland) Aug. 6, 1850.—What can be said of it, not already written and re-written, till even lovers of the romantic are weary of the story? It abounds in oddities, the fine arts, not forgetting the great lion

by Thorwaldsen, twenty-eight feet in length, copies of which are plenty as peaches in New Jersey ; images in wood, in plaster, and marble, of all epochs. Three bridges, leading over arms of the lake, clumsy wooden things, are roofed over, and under the rafters are a series of biblical paintings, old of course, illustrating striking events in the early history of our race. One shows Adam asleep, and Eve fairly escaped from his side. Another is King David in the balcony of a funny-looking house, watching Uriah's wife at the bath. A second bridge is called the "dance of death." On the third, the feats of valor of the Lucerners are favorite subjects of the artist. Medical practitioners are few in number ; the inhabitants are healthy, diligent and long-lived.

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#### IMPROVEMENT IN THE METHOD OF MOUNTING ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

FOR several years past a few dentists among our acquaintance have been in the practice of soldering their artificial teeth, for entire lower sets, to the gold plates with pure tin, using the tinman's soldering iron instead of the blow-pipe. The manner of proceeding is as follows.

First strike up, in the usual manner, a very thin gold plate (No. 30 or 31 will answer) to fit the jaw. When this is done, place the wax upon it, and cut it to the right curve and the proper height for the length of the teeth. The teeth are then to be selected and put round upon the wax in the proper position for use ; but it does not matter whether, or not, they come down to the plate, provided all that part of them which is exposed to view, when in the mouth, is right, as all below will be filled with tin when the process is completed. Plaster and sand is now to be put on the outside of the teeth and plate, in the same manner as though they were to be soldered in the usual way. When this is done, the wax may be cut away, the teeth removed from the plaster, and a thin gold back put upon them. In backing them it will be necessary to bend the platina wires together, over the gold, with a common pair of pliers. The backs may now be soldered to the plate, forming one solid mass of tin as high as the wires, and imitating as nearly as possible the form of alveolus which has been absorbed. When this is done the plaster may be taken away, and as much tin put upon the front as will restore what has been lost by absorption of gum and alveolar process.

When the piece is properly trimmed and burnished, it makes a very strong and natural set of teeth, while the additional weight given to it by the tin keeps it in place better than those made in the ordinary way. Some use silver plate instead of gold, and gild the whole by the galvanic process, and we can see no reason why this metal should not answer just as well as gold. We have put in several temporary sets in the above manner, on gold, and all have done remarkably well, giving entire satisfaction. This plan of mounting teeth was first practised, we believe, by Mr. Royce, about eight years since, and has been used by him in very many cases, as he alleges, with perfect success.

Mr. George E. Hawes has lately made an improvement upon the above plan, by means of which he dispenses with all metallic castings and

plates of every kind, using only the pure tin and the teeth. His plan is, after the first cast is procured, which should be made of plaster with a large proportion of sand, to fit it to a piece of tin foil, or plate, as thick as can well be rubbed down to it with a burnisher, and as large as a gold plate would have to be. The wax is then put upon this tin plate, and trimmed to the proper curve and height as in ordinary practice. Next, the teeth are to be placed upon the wax, and when properly arranged a strip of wax is put round the bottom of the front side of the teeth and plate. This wax, and that on the backs of the teeth, is then to be carved to represent the natural gums, or so as to form a smooth ridge as high as is desirable. Care must be taken to select such teeth as have their platina pins low, so that they may remain imbedded in the wax.

When this process is completed, the whole is to be placed upon the plaster and sand cast, and more plaster and sand poured over it, so as to cover with a thick mass the whole of the wax and the teeth. After the plaster has thoroughly hardened, the casts may be parted, and the tin plate and all the wax taken away; and the platina wires, and those parts of the teeth exposed, washed with muriate of tin. A hole to pour the melted tin into must now be made at one end of the set, and another on the other side for the air to escape from. When completed thus far it is ready for the pouring, and to insure perfect success, the castings should be securely bound together, and the whole mass heated to the temperature of melted tin.

Sets of teeth made in this way, and having the casting thoroughly gilded, are much handsomer and more natural in their form than those which have the long teeth and gold backs. They are also stronger, as they are protected both front and back, can be made for one half the expense of the ordinary sets on heavy gold plates, and, judging from the little experience which we have had in making and testing them, as well as the testimony of Mr. Hawes, are equal in every respect, if not superior, to those mounted upon gold backs.—*N. York Dental Recorder.*

#### FRAGILITAS OSSIUM.

PROF. R. W. SMITH exhibited to the Dublin Pathological Society the pelvis and thigh bones of a female who had suffered from fragilitas ossium, and which had been forwarded to him by Dr. Campbell, of Lisburn. The following was the history of the case, as furnished by Dr. Campbell :—

Eliza Cosgrave, about 45 years of age, a married woman, and mother of two children, the elder being 9 years old and healthy, the younger having died when about three months old, began shortly after the birth of her second child to complain of pains in her limbs, and generally over her body, which she attributed to her residence in a damp house. She soon became so helpless as to be unable to get into or out of bed without assistance. On one occasion, while being helped into bed, her thigh was struck against the bed-post, and the femur broken just below

the trochanter. She now obtained admission into a neighboring hospital, where she remained for many months, and was then discharged without having experienced any amendment of her condition. In this state she removed into the Lisburn Union Workhouse, about two years ago. On examination the injured limb appeared to be about three inches shorter than the other; there was no crepitus, although acute pain was experienced when the thigh was handled or moved. Her general health at this time did not appear much broken, and her appetite was good; but her pains, chiefly in the thigh, were so severe as to require the administration of an opiate every night. Several months having elapsed in this manner, one night, whilst the nurse was turning her in bed, the other thigh was also broken near the trochanter, after which her pains for some weeks were mitigated to a certain extent. Diarrhoea at length set in, and resisted all treatment; her pains returned with greater violence than before, and she died after a few weeks of extreme suffering.

Upon examination after death the fractures were found to have occurred about two inches below the great trochanters; they had both become consolidated, but with great deformity remaining, the fragments being, upon each side, at right angles with one another. The pelvis and thigh bones were so light as to float upon water, and so fragile that a slight pressure of the finger was sufficient to crush the osseous tissue. The compact structure of the femora was as thin as an egg-shell, and the medullary canals enlarged, here and there crossed by delicate osseous septa, and filled with a grumous semi-fluid substance, resembling a mixture of medullary matter and blood. Mr. Smith observed that the facility with which fractures united in such cases was remarkable; the union, as Mr. Stanley has noticed, occasionally taking place within the ordinary period. Mr. Tyrrell has recorded, in the reports of St. Thomas's Hospital, a case of *fragilitas ossium*, in which twenty-two fractures occurred, and observes that the injuries were repaired with greater rapidity than he had seen in other individuals, the union of the fracture of the femur being perfectly firm at the expiration of three or four weeks.

Mr. Smith, in conclusion, alluded to the extraordinary case of this disease recorded by Saillant, in which the lightness of the osseous system was such that the patient, an adult female, when placed in a warm bath, actually floated upon the surface of the water.—*Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science.*

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#### DEATH FROM SWALLOWING A COPPER PENNY.

DR. O'CONNOR detailed to the Cork Medical Society the history of the following case:—A young gentleman, about 18 years of age, called on him in a state of great mental uneasiness, stating that he had a short time previously swallowed a copper penny, that he at first made ineffectual efforts to grasp the coin with his finger, and that an apothecary whom he consulted immediately afterwards was equally unsuccessful in his efforts to extract it. A probang was afterwards passed without any difficulty, and he was comparatively well for several days, except that

his bowels became very costive so as to require the administration of very active aperients. In about a week from the date of the occurrence he felt severe pain in the right hypochondrium, about the situation of the pylorus, which became more severe every day, extending up the right side towards the shoulder. Subsequently he had some degree of nausea and vertigo, and complained of a very peculiar distressing sensation, which he described as resembling a sudden and violent raising upwards of the right side of the body, from the point in which he felt the pain to the top of the head. This feeling recurred frequently and distressed him very much. When this state had lasted a few days, he suddenly discharged a large quantity of blood by the bowels, and very soon after a quantity of clotted blood by vomiting.

The ordinary remedies were had recourse to, but the hemorrhage continued until the patient expired, about four-and-twenty hours from the first discharge of blood. The apothecary who was in attendance, stated that, immediately after death, he distinctly felt the coin in the part where it was suspected to have been impacted, namely, in the pylorus, but an opportunity was denied of testing the correctness of this opinion by a post-mortem examination.

Dr. O'Connor considered the novelty of the occurrence of death from such a cause a sufficient reason for bringing the case under the notice of the Society, more particularly as in books there is more generally found a recital of the extraordinary substances that have been swallowed and passed through the alimentary canal without producing much injury, than of the exceptional cases in which death has been produced by swallowing objects apparently less calculated to cause danger.—*Ib.*

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#### FORMATION OF A SUBSTITUTE LOWER LIP.

BY JAMES SYME, ESQ., PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL SURGERY, EDINBURGH.

THE operation formerly in use for restoring the lower lip was one of the most unsatisfactory in the practice of surgery—so much so, indeed, that few practitioners felt inclined to try it more than once, if they did so at all. The principle of its performance was to obtain integuments sufficient for the purpose by dissecting a flap from below the chin, and turning it round, so as to occupy the vacant space. The ordinary result of this proceeding was sloughing of the transplanted part, which, in the event of escaping that danger, constituted a most unseemly and uncomfortable substitute for the absent part—presenting no resemblance of the natural lip—affording no protection against the dribbling of saliva—and being a constant source of annoyance, from the beard causing irritation by growing in a wrong direction. Some years ago I proposed another method of proceeding, which simply, easily and effectually accomplished the object. The following case, when taken in addition to those already published, may tend to increase the confidence which has been placed in this operation.

W. M., aged 58, from Perthshire, was admitted on the 27th of May,

on account of a malignant-looking sore of the lower lip, which was in great part destroyed, and thoroughly diseased throughout the portion that remained. The disease had appeared about fifteen months before, and been subjected to operation in a provincial hospital, but subsequently returned.

The patient having been placed under the influence of chloroform, I removed the diseased parts, and made the dissection requisite for constructing a new lip, precisely as described in my original account of the operation, and with the same satisfactory result hitherto experienced. The patient was able to permit the manipulations of the barber within a week, and was not only relieved from the disease, but provided with a lip quite similar to the natural feature, and perfectly efficient for all its duties in articulation, mastication and closure of the mouth.—*Edin. Monthly Journal of Medical Science.*

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## THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

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BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 25, 1850.

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*Abuses of Bathing.*—In a previous number of the Journal, we took occasion to express an opinion respecting the abuses of water in bathing. As the article has disturbed the sensibilities of a few of our readers, and others, who perhaps may, for fashion's sake, have indulged too freely in the bath, and as they are disposed to receive our sentiments as authority, we beg leave to qualify one or two expressions in the article alluded to. We were made to say that once a week was often enough to bathe the *whole* body, either for the purpose of cleanliness or luxury, and beyond that was considered injurious. Although in some cases this remark might be applicable, yet we should rather say, that from once to three times a week is often enough to bathe the *whole* body, and in many cases to use it beyond that number of times is injurious. As to the other parts of our article, which some of the daily journals seem to think are heterodox in principle, we do not see any good reason for changing our opinion. Water, as a prophylactic, luxury, or remedy in disease, when used in extremes, can be as *baneful* as the most potent and subtle of other natural or artificial remedies. We wish it to be distinctly understood, that we do not disapprove of its discriminate use; and that it was our intention, in the previous remarks, to state the danger of the extremes which people are likely to fall into, when making use of any fashionable prophylactic or therapeutic remedy.

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*Cleveland Medical College.*—The annual announcement of lectures in the Cleveland Medical College, for the session of 1850-51, has been sent us. It is gratifying to be furnished with such evidence of the success of the institution since its first organization. It appears that seven courses of lectures have been given since it was founded, commencing with sixty-seven students, and the last course exhibiting a class of two hundred and fifty-six—an increase of one hundred and eighty-nine.

*Death from Hydrophobia.*—A Miss Fulton, of Franklin Co., Louisiana, died on the 4th inst., from the effects of the bite of a rabid dog. It appears she was returning home from a barbecue, and when attempting to drink some water, had a severe chill. The paroxysm increased in severity, terminating with her death in about twenty-four hours from the first attack. Two others were bitten by the same dog, but as yet have exhibited no symptoms that would indicate their being sensibly affected.

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*The Intellect and Passions.*—“Mental Hygiene, or an examination of the intellect and passions, designed to show how they affect and are affected by the bodily functions, and their influence on health and longevity. By Wm. Sweetser, M.D., Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in Bowdoin, Castleton and Geneva Medical Colleges. Second edition, re-written and enlarged.” The design of this work, published by Mr. Putnam, of New York, is to impress the reader with the importance of studying mind and body together, and under their mutual and necessary relationship; “to elucidate the influence of intellect and passion upon the health and endurance of the human organization. The character and importance of this influence has, it is believed, been but imperfectly understood and appreciated by mankind at large. Few, we imagine, have formed any adequate estimate of the sum of bodily ills which originate in the mind. Even the medical profession, concentrating their attention upon the physical, are very liable to neglect the mental cause of disease, and thus are patients sometimes subjected to the harshest medicines of the pharmacopœia, the true origin of whose malady is some inward and rooted sorrow, which a moral balm alone can reach.” It is a production of much merit, and cannot fail in the accomplishment of its design.

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*The British Association for the Advancement of Science.*—The Edinburgh Monthly Journal of Medical Science gives the following account of the meeting of this Association recently in that city:—

“The late meeting of the Association in Edinburgh was, as regards the numbers of those who attended it, the most successful which has been held since the former meeting in the same city in 1834. As was to be anticipated, it became necessary to institute a Physiological Sub-section, which, during the two days on which it was open, was very crowded. Indeed there can be little doubt, that had it been instituted earlier, it would have constituted a principal feature of the meeting.

“The proceedings at some of the sections struck us as exhibiting less than formerly that high scientific and original character which would satisfy rigid *savans*: there seemed to be a tendency to popularize, and an unwillingness to hazard criticism; while the memoirs brought forward were in various instances mere re-statements of papers and views long published, or laid before different learned societies, and hence not new to the scientific world. The miscellaneous nature of the auditory may, in part, account for the predominance of the popular element in some of the communications made to the sections; and we question much if such crowds of fair Associates would have been attracted thither had the nature of the entertainment provided for them been more severely intellectual.

“Although the still rather unsettled state of the Continent prevented such an influx of foreign visitors as we had expected, it was still gratify-

ing to see the chief seats of learning in Europe represented by some of their brightest ornaments; and the reception which these gentlemen met with, while it could not but be pleasing to them, was, we are proud to think, not unworthy of our national character for hospitality. Public entertainments were given by the College of Physicians at Barry's Hotel, and by the President of the College of Surgeons, Mr. Syme, at his villa at Millbank House; while many other members of the medical profession distinguished themselves by the exertions which they made to promote the comfort of the strangers who became their honored guests."

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*Gutta-percha Instruments.*—Gutta-percha, in its application to surgery, has been brought before the Academy of Medicine of Paris. The London Medical Gazette states that "Mr. Robert read a report on a memoir presented by M. Cabriol, which spoke in favorable terms of the employment of gutta-percha for the manufacture of many surgical instruments. M. Ricord agreed with the report, with the exception that he did not concur in the opinion that the use of gutta-percha sounds disposed, less than others, to the formation of calculous deposits. These, M. Ricord observed, are dependent upon individual peculiarities, and not upon the introduction of instruments. M. Ricord considered sounds and bougies of gutta-percha to be more durable, and superior to those of caoutchouc or wax."

"M. Velpeau had found gutta-percha bougies to yield when warmed by contact with the walls of the urethra, and from their want of elasticity lose their shape. The same inconveniences, M. Velpeau stated, had attended the use of gutta-percha pessaries.

"M. Segalas had found these sounds and bougies an improvement upon those formerly in use."

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*Correspondence between Dr. C. J. B. Williams and a Homœopathic Practitioner.*—The following recent letter from a homœopathic physician to the well-known Dr. C. J. B. Williams, and his reply to the same, are copied from a late number of the London Lancet.

"DEAR SIR,—I am very desirous of having your opinion in a case of suspected disease of the heart. The patient is the Hon. Mrs. ——, at present residing with Lady ——, —— Square. Will you have the goodness to inform me at what hour on Monday it would be convenient for you to see Mrs. —— ?

"I think it right to state that Mrs. —— has been for many years a convert to homœopathy, and that I, as you possibly may have heard, practise that system of treatment. I mention this, because you may have some objection to meet a homœopathic physician in consultation, and I should much regret if I were the means of inducing you to do any thing distasteful to you, in ignorance of the above facts. I may, however, mention that it is as a matter of diagnosis rather than of treatment that your opinion is desired, and that my friends, Sir —— and Dr. ——, have seen the case with me on former occasions. I remain, dear Sir, your very obedient servant,

"——."

"To Charles J. B. Williams, Esq., M.D., &c."

"DEAR SIR,—I am obliged to you for your courtesy in wishing to have my opinion on the diagnosis of the case of the Hon. Mrs. ——, and for your candor in apprising me that she is under homœopathic treatment; but under these circumstances I must beg you to excuse my attendance.

"Believing, as I firmly do, that the so-called 'homeopathic system' is an entire fallacy, and therefore calculated to do much injury to those on whom it is practised, I consider it to be my duty to do nothing that can, directly or indirectly, countenance or aid it; and it appears to me, that to meet a homeopathic physician in consultation, and to assist in the diagnosis of a case professedly under homeopathic treatment, would have such an effect.

"I need scarcely add, that I have no personal feelings in the matter. And hoping that you will soon return to the legitimate domain of rational medicine,

"To Dr. ——."

I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

"C. J. B. WILLIAMS."

*Trial of Mr. Wakefield for Manslaughter.*—In the Municipal Court, in this city, on Saturday last, was commenced the trial of Terrence Wakefield, jr., upon a charge of manslaughter, in causing the death of James D. Hall, as mentioned in this Journal a few weeks since, by putting up, in his apothecary shop, corrosive sublimate instead of calomel. E. D. Sohier, Esq. appeared for the defence, and S. D. Parker, Esq. for the government. Several witnesses were examined, the most important of whom was the sister of the deceased, who testified to going to Mr. W.'s shop with Dr. Coale's prescription, which was put up by Mr. W. himself. "The witness asked if it could be taken in water, and he answered 'yes.' Witness then went home and administered it to her brother, who immediately began to vomit, saying that there was a mistake; that he had taken liquid fire. She then went back to Mr. W.'s shop and asked what he gave her? He replied, 'Corrosive Sublimate.' She then asked what the prescription was for? and he, upon looking, replied 'ten grains of calomel.' Witness asked what she should do, when Mr. W. inquired if he vomited? and recommended the administration of warm water, which witness upon her return gave to her brother. Dr. Flint was soon after sent for, who prescribed. Until the time of death he continued sick at the stomach, complaining of great pains. Upon the cross-examination she stated that she had been a customer at Mr. Wakefield's shop for some time. When witness gave the recipe to Mr. W. she did not tell him it was for her brother, and he did not know that fact until the mistake was discovered. When she went back, Mr. W.'s inquiry was—"did he vomit immediately?"

Further notice of the trial will be given.

*Manganese.*—MR. EDITOR.—As we have frequent inquiries from physicians as to the strength of the Syrup of the Iodide Manganese prepared by us, we would say, for the benefit of the profession, through the medium of your Journal, that each fluid ounce of the Syrup uniformly contains 40 grains of the Iodide. Respectfully,

PHILBRICK & TRAFTON.

Boston, Sept. 20, 1850.

*Suffolk District Medical Society.*—At the stated meeting of this society, held at their rooms on Wednesday afternoon last, reports from the several committees who had special business assigned them, were read. The further discussion and action upon the subject of the disuse of Latin in writing prescriptions, was postponed to an adjourned meeting, which will take place four weeks from that day. The committee on irregular practices by

members, will report, at the next meeting, what measures should be adopted in such cases.

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*Foreign Medical Books and Surgical Instruments.*—It will be seen by an advertisement in to-day's Journal, that an agency has been established in the city of New York, for the sale of foreign scientific Books and Surgical Instruments. Those who may wish to procure any book upon the sciences which cannot be found in our stores, or instruments of the celebrated manufacture of M. Charrière, have only to order through this agency, to have them promptly and faithfully executed. It will be found a great convenience, and we hope the enterprise may meet with a proper encouragement.

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*Inauguration of the Statue of Larrey.*—This statue, the work of M. David (d'Angers), has been recently erected in one of the courts—*la cour d'honneur*—of the Parisian Military Hospital—the Val-de-Grâce. At its inauguration, on the 9th August, deputations from the principal public bodies of the capital attended, and a number of orations were delivered in honor of the illustrious surgeon, and of the service to which he belonged. None of the orators seem to have so completely charmed the auditory as M. Dupin, the President of the Assemblée Nationale, whose brilliant little improvisation, reported in the *Gazette des Hopitaux*, conveys, even to our minds, the perfection of eloquence and fine feeling.—*Edinb. Monthly Journal.*

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*Sangrado Redirivus.*—The Spanish Journals narrate the case of a man, aged 70, born at Majorca, of sanguine and apoplectic temperament, who, according to an approximate calculation, has, during a period of fifty-five years, been *two thousand times* bled at the arm, and on each occasion at least a pound of blood has been abstracted. From the age of fifteen this man was obliged to have himself bled every month, in order to combat his tendency to apoplexy. At the age of twenty, he was compelled to have recourse to the operation twice every month; at twenty-five, thrice a month; afterwards, thrice every fifteen days; finally, he has sometimes been bled fourteen times in a month. Even still, he is bled twice or thrice a fortnight to prevent his tendency to apoplexy.—*L'Union Médicale*, Aug., 1850.

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To CORRESPONDENTS.—A paper from Dr. Hayward, on the Statistics of Amputations, will appear next week.

A correspondent who sent in a communication on vaccination, is informed that the peculiarities and different modes of performing the operation are not *new*, the same having been discussed in the meetings of the Suffolk District Medical Society, and in the pages of this Journal. It is the opinion of many of the most scientific of the profession, in this and other countries, that re-vaccination is necessary to protect one from the influence of variolous contagion; and, further, the number of the vaccine pustules does not increase its protective power, or the extraction of the lymph destroy its prophylactic properties.

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*Deaths in Boston*—for the week ending Saturday noon, Sept. 21, 71.—Males, 38—females, 33. Accidental, 2—disease of the bowels, 10—disease of the brain, 1—consumption, 15—convulsions, 3—cholera infantum, 1—canker, 1—child-bed, 1—delirium tremens, 1—dysentery, 4—diarrhoea, 3—dropsy, 5—dropsy of the brain, 1—drowned, 1—erysipelas, 1—typhus fever, 1—typhoid fever, 1—hooping cough, 3—infantile diseases, 2—inflammation of the lungs, 1—marasmus, 1—measles, 2—old age, 3—poison, 1—quinsy, 1—teething, 4—unknown, 1.

Under 5 years, 33—between 5 and 20 years, 6—between 20 and 40 years, 17—between 40 and 60 years, 6—over 60 years, 9. Americans, 29; foreigners and children of foreigners, 42.

Less than last week, 25—less than the corresponding week last year, when there were 24 deaths by cholera, 78.

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, Eighty-fifth Session (1850-51).** The Lectures will commence on Monday, October the 7th, and terminate about the end of March ensuing.

**GEORGE B. WOOD, M.D., Theory and Practice of Medicine.**

**WILLIAM E. HORNER, M.D., Anatomy.**

**JOSEPH CARSON, M.D., Materia Medica and Pharmacy.**

**JAMES B. ROGERS, M.D., Chemistry.**

**WILLIAM GIBSON, M.D., Surgery.**

**HUGH L. HODGE, M.D., Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.**

**SAMUEL JACKSON, M.D., Institutes of Medicine.**

Clinical Instruction at the Pennsylvania Hospital, by **GEO. B. WOOD, M.D.,** and by **GEORGE W. NORRIS, M.D.**

Demonstrative Instruction in Medicine and in Surgery, by the Professors of the Medical Faculty, assisted by **W. W. GERHARD, M.D.,** and **HENRY H. SMITH, M.D.**

Practical Anatomy by **JOHN NEILL, M.D., Demonstrator.**

**Summary of Rules of Graduation.**—The candidate to be twenty-one years of age; to have read medicine for three years, two of them under a respectable practitioner of medicine; to have attended two regular courses, one of them at least in this institution; one Hospital course here or elsewhere; and to present a Thesis of his own composition and handwriting.

The regular course is Theory and Practice of Medicine; Anatomy; Materia Medica and Pharmacy; Chemistry; Surgery; Obstetrics, &c.; and Institutes.

The Commencement will take place early in the following April.

Amount of Fees for Lectures in the University, \$105. Matriculating Fee (paid once only), \$5. Hospital Fee, \$10. Practical Anatomy, \$10. Graduating Fee, \$30.

**W. E. HORNER, M.D., Dean of the Medical Faculty.**

Philadelphia, 386 Chestnut street, above 13th,  
July 1, 1850. I oppose the U. S. Mint.  
June 20—epctctd.

**PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, Fifth Street, South of Walnut.**—The Winter Course of Lectures for 1850 and '51, will be commenced on Monday, October 14th, 1850. The General Introductory will be given by Dr. JAMES MCCLINTOCK. Degrees will be conferred early in March.

**JAMES MCCLINTOCK, M.D., Principles and Practice of Surgery.**

**RUSSELL VANDYKE, M.D., Materia Medica and General Therapeutics.**

**THOMAS D. MITCHELL, M.D., Theory and Practice of Medicine.**

**JAMES BAYAN, M.D., Institutes of Medicine, and Medical Jurisprudence.**

**EZRA S. CAER, M.D., Medical Chemistry.**

**JAMES MCCLINTOCK, M.D., General, Special, and Surgical Anatomy.**

**F. A. FICKARDT, M.D., Obstetrics, and Diseases of Women and Children.**

Fee for the full Course, \$31. Matriculation, paid once only, \$5. Graduation, \$30. Fee for those who have attended two full courses in other Colleges, \$15. Dissecting Ticket, \$10. Perpetual ticket, \$150.

Full course candidates for graduation will be furnished with the Pennsylvania Hospital ticket without charge.

The fee for the respective tickets may be paid to each member of the Faculty, or the whole amount may be paid to the Dean, who will issue a certificate which will entitle the student to the ticket of each Professor.

The Spring Course, for 1851, will commence about the 15th of March, 1851. Degrees will be conferred about the 15th of July, 1851.

For further information, inquire of

**JAMES MCCLINTOCK, M.D., Dean,**  
**No. 1 N. Eleventh St.**  
**Philadelphia, June 18, 1850.**  
**Aug 21—6t**

**A CARD.**—Dr. J. H. ROBINSON, inventor of Robinson's Improved Pessary, has removed from 33 Green street, Boston, to No. 1 Bow st., Charlestown, near the square, where communications may be addressed, and where he may be consulted in relation to all Uterine complaints. Ladies afflicted with this class of troublesome diseases, are invited to call and examine the Improved Pessary, and make themselves acquainted with his mode of treatment.

May 15—6t

**BOYLSTON MEDICAL PRIZE QUESTIONS.**—The Boylston Medical Committee, appointed by the Corporation of Harvard University, consists of the following Physicians:

**JOHN C. WARREN, M.D., WALTER CHANNING, M.D.**

**D. WENDELL, M.D., D. H. STOBER, M.D.**

**G. SHATTUCK, M.D., EDW. REYNOLDS, M.D.**

**J. B. S. JACKSON, M.D., J. MASON WARREN, M.D.**

**JOHN JEFFRIES, M.D., Sec'y.**

At the annual meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, Aug. 5, 1850, a premium of sixty dollars, or a gold medal of that value, was awarded to **F. WILLIS FISHER, M.D.,** of the city of New York, for the best dissertation on the following subject:—

"What is the value of the Microscope in detecting pathological changes in the human body?"

No premium was awarded for a dissertation on the subject "What is the connection between Cerebral and Cardiac Disease?"

The following are the Questions for 1851:—

1. A comparison between the present (1849) and the former invasion of Epidemic Cholera.

2. How far are the diseases of the Larynx remediable by surgical treatment?

The following subjects are proposed for the year 1852:—

1. On the diseases of the Prostate Gland.

2. Original researches with the Microscope illustrative of Anatomy, Physiology, or Pathology.

Dissertations on any of these subjects must be transmitted, post-paid, to **JOHN C. WARREN, M.D.,** Boston, on or before the first Wednesday of April of the respective year.

The author of the best dissertation, considered worthy of a prize, on either of the above questions, will be entitled to a premium of Sixty Dollars, or a gold medal of that value, at his option.

Each dissertation must be accompanied by a sealed packet on which shall be written some device or sentence, and within shall be enclosed the author's name and residence. The same device or sentence is to be written on the dissertation to which the packet is attached.

Each dissertation is to be deposited with the Secretary, from whom they may be obtained, with the sealed packet unopened, if called for within one year after they have been received.

By an order adopted in 1836, the Secretary was directed to publish annually the following votes:—

1st. That the Board do not consider themselves as approving the doctrines contained in any of the dissertations to which premiums may be adjudged.

2d. That in case of the publication of a successful dissertation, the author be considered as bound to print the above vote in connection therewith.

**JOHN JEFFRIES, Secretary.**

Boston, Aug. 17, 1850. Aug. 21—6t

**MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE.**—The Course of Lectures commences annually on the last Thursday of September, and continues sixteen weeks.

**BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, M.D., LL.D.,** on Chemistry and Pharmacy.

**ELI IVES, M.D.,** on the Theory and Practice of Physic.

**JONATHAN KNIGHT, M.D.,** on the Principles and Practice of Surgery.

**TIMOTHY P. BEERS, M.D.,** on Obstetrics.

**CHARLES HOOKER, M.D.,** on Anatomy and Physiology.

**HENRY BRONSON, M.D.,** on Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

Lecture fees, \$65.50—Matriculation, \$5—Graduation, \$15.

**CHARLES HOOKER,**  
**Dean of the Faculty.**

New Haven, July, 1850. July 31—6t.

**MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY.**—A Stated Meeting of the Councilors of the Massachusetts Medical Society will be held on Wednesday, October 2, at the Masonic Temple in Boston, at 11 A. M.

**HENRY I. BOWDITCH,**

Sept. 11—3t Recording Sec'y.

**NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS.**—Since calling attention to the inhalation of the powder of the *Nitras Argentii*, in the number of this Journal, March 6th, 1850, I have had many inquiries from physicians at a distance, as to where they could obtain the powder. I have had a quantity prepared, and also, an Inhaler, which will be furnished to physicians on very reasonable terms. I think it decidedly beneficial in diseases of the Lungs and Air Passages.

**W. M. MCNELL, M.D.**

April 24—6m 456 Washington st., Boston.